

## BELGIAN RESISTANCE FORCES GERMANSTO MAKE WIDE DETOUR NORTH OF LIEGE;FRENCH UNCHECKED IN ALSACE FIGHTING

### FRENCH HOLD PASSES TO ALSACE-LORRAINE, WON IN 5-DAY FIGHT

Prolonged Battle on Ridge of the Vosges Supplemented by Minor Fighting, Some in German Territory.

#### WHOLE DIVISION LAYS DOWN ARMS

Bavarian Infantry Surprised at Chambery and Put to Flight—French Aeronaut, Pursued by Three German Fliers, Wins Thrilling Air Race.

By GEORGE DRU.

[Special Correspondent New York Tribune and "London Standard."] Paris, Aug. 14.—Five days of hard fighting have given the French a strong position at the summit of the Vosges mountains, as well as possession of the upper end of the Bruche Valley, a few miles from the German town of Saale. This area of hostilities is about thirty miles northeast of Epinel and thirty miles southeast of Lunéville.

On the German side of the frontier a railway line constructed for strategic purposes only, runs right up to the foot of the Vosges range, and this was used for the conveyance of German troops.

Leaving the trains between Saale and the frontier they proceeded to attack the French positions in the Vosges and at the western end of the Bruche Valley.

The German attacks were delivered with persistent determination. They began on Monday and continued almost incessantly day and night until yesterday (Thursday).

#### MOUNTAIN ARTILLERY EMPLOYED.

On the heights only mountain artillery and infantry were employed, but the nature of the ground afforded a good deal of natural cover for the latter. The German infantry advanced in comparatively close formation and hurled itself against the entrenched positions of the French.

The idea of the German officers seemed to be to overwhelm the French by sheer weight of numbers, regardless of the heavy toll of human life involved in the process.

The French troops, though inferior in numbers, held their positions resolutely and repelled the enemy time after time. The sides of the mountains were covered with the killed and wounded.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

Paris, Aug. 14.—In an official statement issued by the War Office special reference is made to those engagements in which the French troops got possession of the ridge of the Vosges Mountains and kept these positions five days, despite counter attacks by the German troops.

These attacks were vigorously made at various points, but the French troops repulsed all efforts of the enemy, who were superior in numbers. These various engagements have given the French a commanding position as regards their approaches to both Alsace and Lorraine.

At one point the Germans brought into line beside their weakened troops some formations of reserves, but these were unable to resist the French attack and were eventually obliged to lay down their arms, an entire division surrendering.

Another of to-day's official reports says:

"No fact of striking importance took place in the theatre of operations yesterday. There were, however, several skirmishes between German and French patrols and encounters between outposts, notably at Chambery, in German Lorraine, where two companies of the 18th Bavarian Infantry Regiment were surprised by the French troops and driven off vigorously, leaving numerous dead and wounded on the field."

A German aviator carrying the French flag this morning flew over Vesoul and Lure, dropping three bombs on the railway station at the first named town and then two on the station at Lure. Only small damage was done. The aviator was fired on by gendarmes and compelled to flee.

A French aviator, reconnoitring in Lorraine, was pursued by two German airmen. Their machines were larger and faster than the Frenchman's and carried three armed men each. After an exciting chase the French flier escaped and returned to the French lines unharmed.

It is officially announced that numerous German patrols have taken refuge in Switzerland. No French soldiers have crossed the Swiss frontier.

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### LATEST NEWS OF THE WAR.

Paris, Aug. 14.—The result of the five-day battle along the ridge of the Vosges Mountains is that the French, though vigorously opposed, control approaches to both Alsace and Lorraine. An entire division of German troops surrendered. Some of the supplementary fighting has been in German territory. A section of Bavarian infantry was surprised at Chambery and put to flight, suffering serious losses.

Brussels, Aug. 14.—The Germans, having resolved to reduce at least the forts on the left bank of the Meuse, made a furious attack in force last night under cover of the darkness. They reached the glacis of the works, only to be repulsed with a loss of three-fifths of their command. They are now in retreat and Brussels is considered no longer in danger.

London, Aug. 14.—All the powers resent Turkey's purchase of the cruisers Goebel and Breslau from Germany. The allies notify the Ottoman government that the German officers and crews of the ships must be repatriated.

The transatlantic liners, no longer needed by the British government, recommence sailing next week.

Halifax, Aug. 14.—The Cunarder Mauretania sailed to-day with 10,000 tons of coal. H. M. cruiser Good Hope arrived to assist in capturing the German cruisers in the Western Atlantic.

### RUSSIANS REPULSE TWO ARMY CORPS

Czar's Forces Defeat Germans in Big Night Attempt to Recapture City of Eydtkuhnen, in East Prussia.

By HERBERT CHETWYND.

[Special Correspondent New York Tribune and "London Standard."] St. Petersburg, Aug. 14.—A sudden attempt of German troops to advance under cover of darkness and recapture the frontier station of Eydtkuhnen was repulsed vigorously by the Russians. A sharp engagement occurred between the Czar's forces and the 1st and 21st German Army Corps. The Germans finally retired with heavy losses, leaving the Russians still occupying Eydtkuhnen.

Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaievich, commander in chief of the Russian army, issued an order to-day that all Poles showing loyalty to the Slav cause will be specially protected by the Russian army and government.

Any attempt to interfere with the personal and material rights of Poles not guilty of hostility to Russia will, according to the order, be punished with all the severity of martial law.

Rome, Aug. 14.—According to reliable information from St. Petersburg, Russia has mobilized 2,000,000 men on the German and Austrian frontiers and 500,000 on the Turkish and Rumanian frontiers, while 3,000,000 men are held in reserve.

London, Aug. 14.—A Reuter dispatch from St. Petersburg says a message has been received there from Vilna stating that a German aeroplane which was making observations of Russian military movements in the Polish government of Suwalki, was fired upon and brought down with a crash. Its occupants, four German officers, were killed.

### SIR JOHN FRENCH JOINS JOFFRE IN THE FIELD

Paris, Aug. 14.—The Havas Agency announces that Field Marshal Sir John French, the commander-in-chief of the British field army, joined General Joseph Joffre, the French commander-in-chief, at headquarters to-day. The locality is not mentioned.

It was officially announced this evening that unification of the French and Belgian forces had been established by an interchange of officers. The Belgians exchanged Colonel Orjo de Marcholette, of the cavalry, and Major Melotte, formerly military attaché at Berlin, for the French Captain Cholet. Lieutenant Colonel Adelbert and General Genie, the latter military attaché at Brussels.

An official announcement says that a large number of French troops have entered Belgium and are proceeding from Charleroi to Gembloux, ten miles to the northwest of Namur.

The War Office states that in the operations at Liège the Belgians captured 2,000 prisoners, while the French on the frontier took more than 1,500 prisoners.

London, Aug. 14.—The Brussels correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph says the transportation of French troops into Belgian territory is now complete and that all the troops that had been expected are in battle order at a place fixed according to the plans of the chief of staff.

### London, Though Eager for News, Gladly Yields to the Censor

By RICHARD HARDING DAVIS.

London, Aug. 14.—On arriving in London what most impresses you is, in the English papers, the absence of any news concerning any movement of the English navy and army. It is a conspiracy of silence on the part of the English people of the most unselfish and patriotic nature.

No interest at this time in any relative with any ship or regiment is permitted to outweigh the wishes of all for the success of all. This secrecy as to the present plans or whereabouts of any military unit is enforced not only by the orders of the War Office, but is the wish of every one.

A father, son or brother leaves to join his ship or regiment, and after that his family neither know nor seek to know where he may be. It is a splendid compliment to the organization of the War Office. Also it is a compliment to the loyalty of many millions, who make no effort to break through the wall of silence that Field Marshal Kitchener has erected between them and their army.

We know that England has declared war. In the papers we can read of the Red Cross societies, of funds patronized by the royal family for those who may be wounded, for those who may be left fatherless, for those who already have been left without support. No one need be a military expert to read in the streets signs of a nation at war, even though of those signs it would be improper to write. But in no paper in the United Kingdom will he learn that by land and sea British forces are engaged in the greatest war since their victory at Waterloo.

It makes the position of a correspondent somewhat difficult, but it shows that into this struggle of the giants England has entered without hysteria or vain boasting, but earnestly, calmly and undismayed.

### BERLIN CHANCELLOR APPEALS TO AMERICA

Deplores England's Stand: "It Is with a Heavy Heart That We See Her Ranged Among Our Opponents."

London, Aug. 14.—The Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company tonight issued to all the London newspapers the following dispatch from Berlin as having been officially circulated through all the German wireless stations to-day:

"In an interview the German Imperial Chancellor, von Bethmann-Hollweg, stated to-day:

"The present war is a life and death struggle between the German and the Muscovite races of Russia. It is due to the recent murders at Sarajevo.

"We warned Russia against kindling this world war. She demanded the humiliation of Austria, and while the German Emperor continued his work in the cause of peace and the Czar was telegraphing words of friendship to him, Russia was preparing for war against Germany.

"Then highly civilized France, bound by an unnatural alliance with Russia, was compelled to prepare by strength of arms for an attack on its flank, on the Franco-Belgian frontier, in case we proceeded against the French frontier works.

"England, bound to France by obligations disowned long ago, stood in the way of the German attack on the northern coast of France.

"This, therefore, forced us to violate the neutrality of Belgium, but we had promised emphatically to compensate that country for all damage inflicted.

"Now England avails herself of the long-awaited opportunity to commence war for the destruction of the commercially prosperous Germany.

"We enter into that war with our trust in God. Our entire race has risen in a fight for liberty, as it did in 1813.

"It is with a heavy heart that we see England ranged among our opponents, notwithstanding the blood relationship and close relationship in spiritual and cultural work between the two countries.

"England has placed herself on the side of Russia, whose insatiability and whose barbaric insolence have helped this war, the origin of which was murder and the purpose of which was the humiliation by Russian Pan-Slavism."

"We expect that the sense of justice of the American people will enable them to comprehend our situation. We invite their opinion as to the one-sided English representations and ask them to examine our point of view in an unprejudiced way.

"The sympathy of the American nation will then lie with German culture and civilization, fighting against a half Asiatic and slightly cultured barbarism."

### LIEGE FORTS STILL DEFY GERMAN FIRE

Belgian Garrison of 3,000 Continue to Arrest Advance of Opposing Host Numbering 250,000, Their Guns Commanding Enemy's Communications.

By E. B. WHITBY.

[Correspondent New York Tribune and "London Standard."]

Brussels, Aug. 14.—It was officially announced to-day that all twelve forts encircling Liège are still intact, their continued resistance to the huge forces around them being the most remarkable feature of the military situation in Belgium.

Inside the forts are about 3,000 Belgian soldiers, all around them are the German forces numbering at least a quarter of a million troops. Part of the German army operating in Belgium has been pushed forward to regions north and west and south of Liège, while reinforcements from the east are continually arriving. Up to yesterday the bombardment of the forts by German artillery was continued with brief intervals, but thanks to the nature of their construction it was without much effect.

Repeated assaults, too, were made, but the Belgians repulsed them with machine guns trained with deadliest effect on the bare, smooth slopes in the immediate vicinity of the forts. For a moment the Germans seem content to invest the forts with the idea of starving them into surrender. Meanwhile the guns of the forts, which command the German line of communication in the Meuse Valley, as well as the valley of the Ourthe and in other directions, continue to harass very seriously the advance of the Germans toward the west. Even if the forts are reduced to submission they will have done more than their duty. They have arrested the German advance and delayed the execution of the Berlin plan of campaign to such an extent that the allied armies of Belgium and France have had time to complete a bigger scheme of defence.

### GERMANS IN RETREAT AFTER ANOTHER VAIN ASSAULT AT LIEGE

Furious Attempt to Storm Forts on Left Bank Costs Three-fifths of Attacking Troops.

#### BRUSSELS NO LONGER IN DANGER

Garrison of 4,000 Holding 250,000 at Bay Disrupts Entire Plan of Imperial General Staff—Allies' Commanders in Chief Confer.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

Brussels, Aug. 14.—The situation at the Liège forts is now as follows: The Germans have ceased bombardment of the forts on the right bank of the Meuse and are devoting all their energies to those on the left bank. Fort Pontisse has suffered the worst assault because by its situation it is more instrumental than any others in preventing the crossing of the river.

The enemy has been trying to rush the fort by main force without longer relying upon siege artillery. The attack in this new form began quietly, but in the middle of the night it developed with great fierceness, the Germans hoping to profit by the few hours of darkness. The Germans, however, could not get beyond the glacis of the fort, where they were mowed down by the fire of the defenders. The Germans were provided with bundles of wood and matches to fill up the ditches, but they were unable to make use of them.

The fort of Liers lent very effective aid to Fort Pontisse during the attack. The object of the Germans was obviously to seize the forts on the left bank, which in the hands of the Belgians would be terrible weapons against them should the Belgian main army march toward Liège. On the other hand, were the forts in the possession of the Germans they would serve as a base for action directed against Belgian attacks. All forts are resisting extremely well.

The heroism of the Belgian resistance has astonished the world; it has surprised the Belgians themselves.

The war is only the opportunity for expression of a new Belgian democratic spirit. The new service conditions have been merely one of many agencies by which the idea of the individual right to a greater share in self-government has been disseminated.

If the Belgians are fighting heroically it is because they are fighting for an independence which means not simply a national flag and a colored space on the map, but individual liberty. Each man for himself and for his neighbor is responsible for a share in an increasingly popular government. The inspiration of the national resistance has been the consciousness in each man of his share of liberty, and this democratic spirit has given life and vivid purpose to the military machine.

For the time being, all difference of party is sunk in securing national independence and deliverance from the threat of the greatest enemy of freedom and individual enterprise—the military autocracy of Prussia.

#### GERMANS' HEAVY LOSSES.

The Brussels War Office officially announced an engagement to-day, in which the Belgians inflicted heavy German losses, causing a German retreat, which continues. The Belgians captured several machine guns mounted on automobiles.

The War Office announcement says that only one division and one mixed brigade engaged. The Germans probably lost three-fifths of their troops engaged, according to the statement, while the Belgian losses were comparatively small. The statement concludes: "No further surprise will disturb the Belgian troops. Any fresh attack will be as victoriously repulsed as those preceding it, such is the spirit of determination of every Belgian soldier who has dispersed once for all the belief in the invincibility of the German troops."

Field of Operations, Belgium, Aug. 13.—The operations during last evening and this morning were extremely interesting and may be said to mark a new phase in the campaign. I left a section of the Belgian army last evening in a position which I may not record, standing on guard against a possible German advance from the northeast.

The Belgian position at that point did not suggest the possibility of serious action, so I left their rear position actually when desultory artillery fire that I recorded before was ushering in a most important action. As yet in this reconnaissance phase the fighting line was in advance about twenty kilometres from where I stood, so in any case it would have been impossible to get forward to see the actual combat. I have to give from the evidence of officers engaged this account of the feat of arms which has added much to the confidence of the Belgian army.

#### THE BELGIAN POSITION.

The Belgian position, which was about one hundred kilometres east of Brussels, was as a triangle based upon the railway line, with its apex pointed northeast. This apex was to be held by entrenched infantry, supported by one battery of artillery. The